

THE LOGGER'S BARK**Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.****P.O. Box 11188****Tacoma, WA 98411**

JANUARY 2006 EVENTS

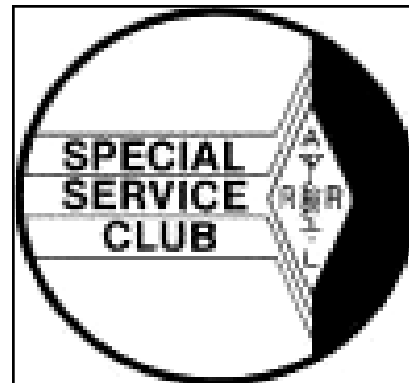
Board Meeting, Wednesday January 4th 7:30 p.m. Clubhouse - All members welcome

License Testing - Tuesday, January 10th 2006. 7 PM, Clubhouse

BARK deadline Sunday January 22nd 2006- PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Informal 2-meter SSB net every Tuesday on 144.275 MHz USB, after the formal repeater net on 147.280 feel free to drop in.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB

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SEC., Larry Watson, KD7VOM, rwatson@chirpmail.net
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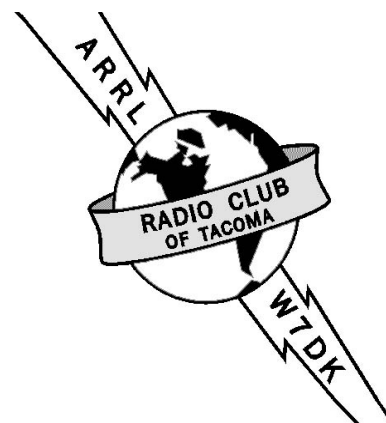


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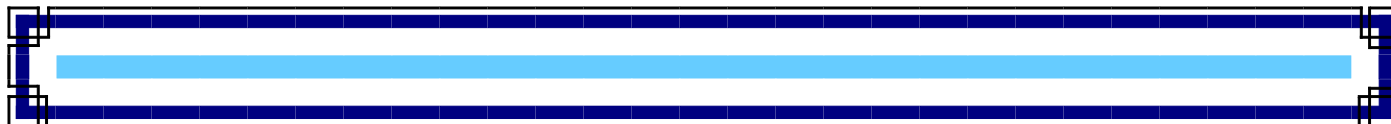
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PUBLISHER W7DK PRESS AC7WW 253-475-5854



CLUB MEETINGS: 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month at the Pierce County Library Administration Building, 3005 - 112th Street East, Tacoma, WA



147.38 / .98 MHz (PL 103.5)

The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non profit organization as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes.

The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA

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Special points of interest:

RCT Christmas

- Elmer board page 6
- Hurricane Katrina report page 4
- RCT Christmas party page 15-16
- Special holiday greetings from the President this page and also page 25!

From The Prez



From The Prez

Well we made it through another year, and the club is still doing well. It's time to look back and give recognition and thanks to those who made this happen. Without the hard work and dedication of these individuals we would surely fail. There were certificates of appreciation handed out to at our recent awards / Christmas banquet that was held at the T.A.C.I.D. building in west Tacoma. Before I brief you on those recipients I would just like to say that there are many more of you that are deserving of recognition. The club depends on all of us chipping in. I would just like you to know that we do appreciate all of you. THANK YOU!

Certificates awarded at banquet include **Jerry Seligman/W7BUN**. Jerry does so much for the success of the club that it would be impossible to mention all of them. He has been the clubs program chairman for many years. He offers upgrade classes in the basement of his home to hams that are ready to advance. (I took three of them myself). He was on the VE team, and maintained the membership records for most of the year. He also ordered the books from the ARRL and sold them at the club meetings. Without all his time and dedication it would

have been much more work for the rest of us. Thank you Jerry for all your hard work and dedication.

Rich Manson/N7ANF has been keeping the clubhouse open and available to visitors and members for Saturday open house. Among other things Rich also puts together a Mother's day breakfast each year and organizes our awards banquet. He also makes sure we are fed at field day too.

Frank Palmer/AC7JY has provided us with more than one successful hamfest, one of the clubs largest fund raisers. He also works on the clubs welcoming committee, and is always involved with projects to keep the clubhouse in good shape. Frank also chaired the committee to pick this year's Doc Spike Award.

Jill Palmer/K7JIL, in addition to serving as the clubs vice president, is also the clubs sunshine officer. She also works on the welcoming committee, and has recently taken over the membership records. She also helps Frank organize our hamfest. Jill also led the crew that provided the clubhouse with the newly remodeled kitchen. (Thanks is also due to Al Ferguson/N7OMS for donating all the cabinets and appliances to make the remodel possible. Thanks Al). Without all the hard work of both Jill and Frank, the club would not be what it is today. We all owe them a huge radio club thanks.

Continued on page 25



Security Masters Protective Services

Mike Batnick

Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Team

Spending two weeks in the damage zone of one of the worst catastrophes in the nation's history has created a connection for me that climbing on an airplane and flying home didn't sever.

John Grant & I left for the SeaTac airport, Sunday September 4, just 22 hours after receiving the call to go. We were assigned to protect Bell South phone company assets, while they were restoring phone service to the area. We arrived at the airport early, so we could get checked in. At the ticket counter we had to declare the contents of our bags. When you buy a last minute, one-way ticket & tell the ticket agent you have 300 rounds of ammunition, ballistic vest, knives & other gear in one bag, and two handguns in the other, you are guaranteed to be one of the Random Special Secondary Security Screening Candidates. My equipment bag was 70 lbs. overweight, but since we were headed into the "Katrina Zone", I was not charged extra. Then off to TSA for their baggage inspection. They were very thorough. The ladies at the America West counter were very helpful and expedited our check-in. By 1730, we were wheels-up for Dallas, with a lay-over in Las Vegas.

We flew into Dallas Texas, and picked up a rented Dodge Dakota Quad cab pickup. We loaded all our gear in the back, filled up the four, 5 gal gas

cans we had brought on the plane with us, and began the 9+ hour drive to Gulfport, Mississippi. We stopped several times to top off our gas tank so we would have as much fuel as possible when we got to Gulfport. All the way there, we saw miles and miles of Natl. Guard & Reserve convoys from many states headed south.

Driving south from Jackson, MS, we began to see damage. By the time we got to Hattiesburg, MS, the damage was looking severe. Roofs gone, some walls gone & many trees down. Trees 6 feet in diameter broken off about 4-5 feet up.

By the time we got to Stone County we saw lots more walls, buildings, & signs down. Very few lights showing in the almost dark. Harrison County (Gulfport) was completely dark. No lights at all, except for Humvee headlights. Trees twisted, then broke off, and power lines laying in the streets. Trees had been trimmed at the edges of the pavement just enough to drive down highway 49. We found our camp because there were only two lighted areas. The Power Co. & Bell South had the only lit compounds in the County. Bell South was set up in the county baseball park. We had 2 huge white tents, one for crew sleeping & the other for crew meals. There were about 100 Bell South trucks, & hundreds of private cars. Bell South employees had their families with them, so we had to sleep in our pickup for two nights.

We worked the first day in Gulfport. The first 1.5 miles from the beach had only a few brick buildings standing. They had no roofs or windows. Most also were missing some walls. Bell South had provided us with letters asking law enforcement and all others to assist us in every way possible. This would get us through road blocks and curfew problems. Every where we went, we saw smiles, politeness, and cooperation by everybody helping out in any way they could. We heard no complaints or anger anywhere we went.

As we left town Labor Day evening, a convoy arrived to relieve the Natl. Guard. At the front of the convoy was a fleet of NYPD patrol cars. The rest of it was a Marine MP Company, with their Blackhawk & Chinook Helicopters

flying over the City. in my mind I still see miles of rubble that was once a city's business district. I remember listening to wives calling in to the local radio stations, asking if anybody knew where their missing family members were, or how can I get my, or my husbands paycheck.

The next day we gassed up in the Bell South compound and loaded a case of water, two days food, our full gas cans, into the truck and deployed to Meridian, MS, 158 miles north. As we drove north, we bumped over newly laid power lines stretched across the highway. Traffic was stopped long enough to pull the power lines across the highway, then opened up to drive. Power poles would have to wait for another day. When we got to Meridian, the power was on there and with only a few buildings down. There were still some roofs missing, and lots of trees and signs down. Meridian was back to almost business as usual, except that there was a curfew from 2200-0600 every night. We finally were able to get a real meal & found a room at a \$40.00 a night (for two) room at a local motel. Not a real good room, but it was better than the \$20.00 a night that the crew we relieved stayed in.

We reported to William & J.B., at the Bell South compound & began our first 12 hour shift. We both worked the 1800-0600 shift for the first few days, than I went to the 0600-1800 shift, with John on the night shift. We were guarding approximately 100 mobile generators worth about \$15,000 each, a 25 line trucks, 3000 gal. gas tank & 1000 gal of diesel. We also had a semi trailer full of ice, about 60 pallets of water, a pallet of soda pop, & one of power aide. Every morning we had sausage biscuits with juice & fruit, lunch & dinner were Subway deli meat sandwiches & soda pop. We worked with a great crew of linemen from all over the South. They worked 10-14 hours a day, seven days a week to get phone service restored.

The first question we got, all over town,: "Where you-all from"? We told them Tacoma, Washington. They all answered with, "God bless you, thanks for

your help". We were wearing white polo shirts with SECURITY printed on the front & back, along with our full duty belt. Leaving Wal-Mart on day, I called a cab. The cab driver asked me if I had a permit for my gun? I told him that "the Governor said so". He said, "that's enough for me, get in." Southern hospitality is still alive despite the crisis. On our way back to Dallas, we had to stop on the road in Louisiana & pour 10 gallons of gas into our tank. John guarded me while I poured. We stopped again at a rest stop in Texas to use up the last of our gas. While there, we talked to an Air Force reserve Sgt. He said that they weren't allowed to bring their weapons with them, since they were deployed in Louisiana. That was a big difference from Mississippi.

We spent the night at the Best Western at the airport. Again Southern hospitality shown thru. Instead of the \$95.00 room for two, we were given a suite for \$69.95. A great room. At noon we were back at the airport, where we were again accorded the Random Secondary Security Screening, then allowed to board. Our flight home was uneventful.

We worked long hours while we were there, but Others got up earlier and went to bed later than we did. Others accomplished superhuman things on behalf of those who were in trouble. Others quietly solved and saved and stayed in the background. Tremendous efforts were made across the damage zone. We helped where we could to assist & protect the hard working men & women of Bell South Telco. We worked under poor conditions & long hours, but on the way home, we began planning for the next relief effort.

...We told them Tacoma, Washington. They all answered with, "God bless you, thanks for your help..."

QSL Card of the Month

Submitted by: WG7X

On the Bands!

The big story this month is the KP5 mini DX-pedition...

Rumor had it that there were many un-disciplined operators trying to work the expedition, but when I tried them it seemed that everyone was behaving very well. I got through with very little trouble, and so did some of the other locals (Like K7LAZ!)

The expedition was cut short by the arrival of the... POLICE!!



It looks like members of another DX club, who shall remain nameless, actually filed a lawsuit to stop the DX'ers simply because THEY had planned to be first!

GEEZE!

Simply unbelievable. Well, I hope that some of you got to work them!

73 Gary WG7X

Elmer Board

Do you need help with some area in ham radio? Here is a place to start... First is the listing of areas of support, followed by a list of members' areas of interest.

1. Technical questions, Classes
2. Help with Code
3. License Examinations
4. Antenna and Station planning
5. Antenna and Tower erection
6. Buying new or used equipment
7. Equipment repair
8. Understanding and operating your equipment
9. DX and Contests
10. Club and ARRL activities

11. Using test equipment

12. IRLP

Name/Call Sign /Phone Number/ Help with topic

Jerry, W7BUN 253-845-7652: 1, 4, 6, 9, 10

Alan, KB7SVU 253-840-4947: 4, 5, 10

Frank, N7UO 253-752-8520 : 2, 3

Angela, KC7EQ 253-589-4071: 2

Mick, KK7QS 253-891-6950 : 12

Gary WG7X 253-984-0868: 1,4,5,6,8,9,10,11

If you are willing to share your time and knowledge with "newbees" and others, let us know and get on the Elmer Board!

Schedule of Events

- Tuesdays January 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th & 31st Club Repeater net 147.280
- SSB Net, same dates as above on 144.275 USB after SSB net.
- Board Meeting Wednesday January 4th @ 7:30 PM at RCT club house.
- General meetings on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays that's the 11th & 25th.
- Whiskey Group meets twice daily 0700 on 3948 kHz & 2100 on 3957 kHz.
- Tax day is only 2.5 months away. Panic now and avoid the rush!

January 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

EDITORS NOTES...

Hello there fellow Club members!

As you have no doubt noticed, there have been and continue to be changes to the old familiar "Loggers Bark". I hope that the changes are generally for the better, and I intend to keep the level of this publication high.

Now, having said all that, I realize that those of you who are getting your "BARK" via the USPS will have to be a little more patient than those that are getting the publication through the web site. The colors that I have on the publication now might be changed in future to allow better copying. I'll be studying up on that, so be patient, OK?

Also, you will be seeing a lot more photographs in here. I believe that they add interest to the pages, and who here does not enjoy seeing themselves in print?

That might even be a reason to start showing up at club events... You never know, you might see your smiling face on the cover of the Rolling Bark...

Oh sorry about that... sometimes I get carried away!

73 All

Gary WG7X Editor,

Head barkeep and bottle washer.

W7DK Loggers BARK.

PS: Please! If you have pictures, articles, questions, ETC, send them to use for inclusion in "The Loggers Bark"!

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A RUBBER DUCKY?



Well hello there, it's 2006. I didn't think I'd ever make it. When I was a kid I thought if I could just live to 2000, boy and I'd see anti-gravity and star ships, free power and all kinds of really cool things. Most of which would probably screw up the economy. After all, the oil sales-people would sure get

their shorts in a knot. Imagine, Gas at 5 cents a gallon and we wouldn't need any. Well I almost didn't make it to 2000, and here it's 2006 and that sucker is still beating. A bit ragged perhaps, stops and starts, thumps and clunks, and dizzy spells some times. I think maybe the Dr. ought to turn down my adrenaline a tad bit.

Well off to other things, like: All the People who pitched in and helped while I was working at the Fair from Aug. thru Sept. The Christmas party, and three Saturdays when we were at the Santa Train doing cookies and cocoa for all the kids coming off the train down at Point Defiance Park. A BIG THANK YOU.

Now Antenna stuff. As some of you know I've have been going out on the other side of Eatonville about every week to take Bob, N7AHR shopping and get him out of the house. He is loosing his vision and he can't drive, so he is kind of dependent That's 36 miles at 1500 feet up in the hills. Two meters doesn't do to well out there. No phone, as everything is long distance into the Tacoma area. I'm working on putting up a dipole for HF. Tall trees he does have. So I / We might be able to get some wire up in the air for him. He does have an HF radio.

He has a pair of big 2 meter 8 foot yagis phased, but they're stuck up in some tree branches, and the rotor hasn't worked for years. I figure if we trim the branches and clean up the control cable connections, it might even work.

And with that thing and 50 watts He'd be full quieting clear into BC. For sure the RCT 147.28 machine would be smoking.

This has got me thinking about building something along those lines. The National bureau of Standards has published "NBS Technical Note 688" Which looks like some

early computer design with graphics. The ARRL

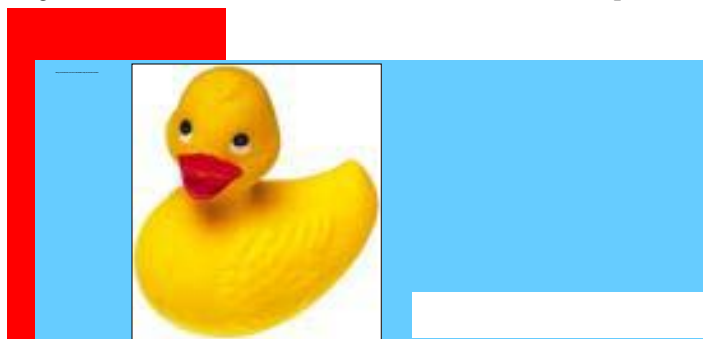
has taken this info. and used it to design some real nice yagi antennas with some good gain. I found this info in some 80's hand books. (I don't have any newer books, but it's probably in there too). Well, I'm thinking of 2 two meter, 6 element, 8 foot-ers. Each should have 10.2 dB gain, so 2 should give me around 13 dB. 8 feet is

plenty long for me. They have listed from 3 element, 7.1 dB, 0.4 wave length boom. (at 2 meters that would be about 3 feet long). all the way up to 15 element, 14.2 dB, 4.2 wave length boom (at 2 meters that would be 28 1/2 feet long). That's a tad bit long for me, but you see the choices we have. It's

only twice the dB, of the little one and that doesn't seem like much. But remember every 3 dB is double the signal

strength. So that would be about 4 or 5 times the gain of the little one. I've been doing a lot of digging and looking for info. on coax phasing lines, and I can't find much. Maybe it's in all those new books I don't have. I thought I'd use the 2 - 8 foot ones, 5/8 wave length apart. Set each gamma match for 100 ohms. Use RG8 (or 58), any

Length. but to be on the safe side cut each one to a multiple of a



1/2 wave (times 0.666). Hook both to a coax "T", then run RG8 or better down to the radio .If some one has a better way to do it please let me know.

I' at: N7ANF@harbornet.com. I would love to hear from you.

Till then 73 & 450, From Rich N7ANF....The Duck. You all have a wonderful new year from the Manson's.

VE TEAM REPORT

December 13, 2005 Test Session Report

Twelve VE's administrated four elements to three candidates.

An eleven year old young man from Seattle tried twice but did pass element two on the second attempt to become a new technician class amateur.

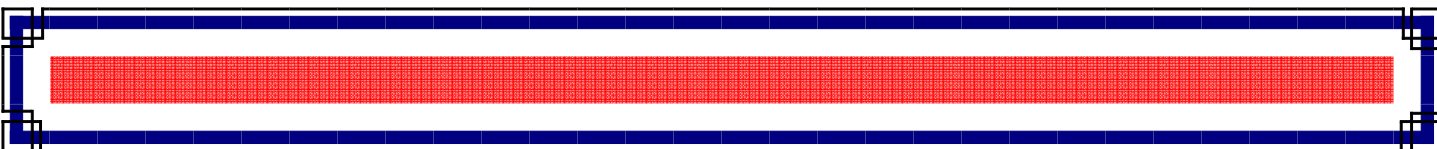
Paul, KE7CET passed element one in the nick of time. It was his last day on his CSCE for element three taken December 14, 2004. Paul advances to General class.

Thanks to the Volunteer Examiners that attended the session.

Next Testing Session will be January 10, 2006

Leon, KE7FCX, brought a relative of his girl friend to the testing session. He passed element two to become a new technician class amateur.

John Clarke AC7WW



STERN NOTE FROM THE TREASURER!



ACTION REQUIRED:

The accounting books for the Radio Club of Tacoma for 2005 will close on January 31, 2006. If you have any expenses that require reimbursement, please have statements and receipts submitted by January 25, 2006. If you have any monies that belong to the Radio Club from sales, donations, coffee funds, etc. please have itemized and submitted by January 25, 2006.

Thank you.

Pat Wingerter KD7TRC

RCT Treasurer

CONTINUOUSLY ACTIVE SINCE 1916.

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PRESIDENT:: Use Web site address

All other officers: Use web site address.

If you know anyone in the club who could use a word of cheer, congratulations or condolences, please contact Jill Palmer, K7JIL, 253-539-7772 or e-mail hamtalker2@msn.com

We're on the WEB: WWW.W7DK.ORG

HOW ABOUT A LITTLE HUMOR? (VERY LITTLE)

According to a news report, a certain private school in Washington recently was faced with a unique problem. A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom. That was fine but, after they put on their lipstick, they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints.

Every night the maintenance man would remove them and the next day the girls would put them back. Finally the principal decided that something had to be done. She called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the maintenance man. She explained that all these lip prints were causing a major problem for the custodian who had to clean the mirrors every night. To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, she asked the maintenance man to show the girls how much effort was required.

He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it. Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror. There are teachers, and then there are educators.

Then there was this one...

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" She asked.

"Hunting Flies" He responded.

"Oh. Get any?" She asked.

"Yep, 3 males, 2 Females," he replied.

Intrigued, she asked, "How can you tell?"

He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone.

ISS COMMANDER SHOOTING FOR WAC, WAS AND MAYBE DXCC FROM SPACE

ISS Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, has proven to be one of the more active Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) operators among ham radio operators who have occupied the space station.

Early in his ISS duty tour, McArthur got on the air from NA1SS for Scouting's Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) event in October, but he's also been available during his off hours to make some quick, casual QSOs on 2 meters as well. In fact, McArthur's having so much fun operating from space that he's hoping to complete Worked All Continents (WAC), Worked All States (WAS) and maybe even DXCC from space.

"Bill McArthur continues to be active on voice and now has a couple of personal goals he is trying to achieve," says ARISS Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO. "He is trying to talk to someone in every state in the United States. According to his log, he has managed to work 37 states so far." In addition, Ransom says, McArthur wants to work as many countries as he can.

"He's off to a good start with 28 DXCC entities in his log as of December 12," he said. "These contacts have been with amateur stations on every continent with the exception of Antarctica." That contact could happen this weekend, however. Although the IARU does not require WAC applicants to have worked Antarctica, Ransom says that ARISS tradition calls for an Antarctica QSO to achieve WAC from space "since the astronauts seem to have an unfair advantage."

Expedition 9 astronaut Mike Fincke, KE5AIT, became the first ISS crew member to contact all seven of the world's continents via Amateur Radio from NA1SS. Fincke worked KC4AAC at Antarctica's Palmer Research Station for his last contact.

States on McArthur's most-needed list are Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia and Washington.

"The list of DXCC entities is just starting to grow, so he needs a lot right now," Ransom conceded this week. "I figure he can get it if we are able to add a handful of smaller entities." Ransom says he hasn't included ARISS

school group contacts in his counts and hopes McArthur will achieve his goals without them. "We won't know the official results for months after the mission," he added.

McArthur is about halfway through his approximately six-month duty tour aboard the ISS. He and crewmate Valery Tokarev will return to Earth in April.

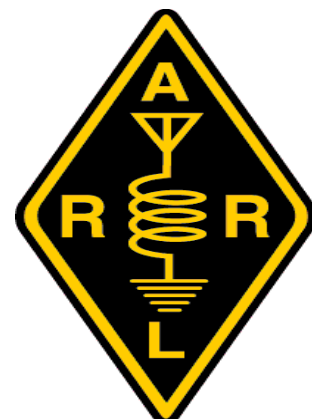
During Thanksgiving week, McArthur reportedly made some three dozen casual contacts, most of them over North America and a few over Europe and New Zealand. Nine-year-old Mattie Clausen, AE7MC, of Oregon recently enjoyed her third QSO with McArthur, and the two now are on a first-name basis. McArthur made contacts with stations in the US on December 6. He also had QSOs with Australia, New Zealand and the US on December 11.

The NA1SS worldwide voice and packet downlink frequency is 145.800 MHz. In Regions 2 and 3 (the Americas, and the Pacific), the voice uplink is 144.49 MHz. In Region 1 (Europe, Central Asia and Africa), the voice uplink is 145.20 MHz. The worldwide packet uplink is 145.99 MHz. All frequencies are subject to Doppler shift. The Science@NASA Web site provides location information for the ISS
<<http://science.nasa.gov/temp/StationLoc.html>>.

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss>> program is an international educational outreach with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

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ARES EMERGENCY NET ESTABLISHED AFTER MISSOURI DAM BREAK

When millions of gallons of water breached the wall of a mountaintop hydroelectric reservoir in rural Reynolds County, Missouri, December 14, an ARES emergency net was quickly established on the Van Buren repeater. The deluge washed down the mountainside, sweeping away homes and vehicles and flooding the valley below.

A dwelling occupied by a park superintendent, his wife and three children was among those washed away. The family was found a half-mile away, and the children all were hospitalized, at least one of them in serious condition.

The town of Lesterville was under a voluntary evacuation order. ARRL District G Emergency Coordinator Dave Hannigan, KN0D, reports stations checked into the net from Poplar Bluff, Piedmont, Eminence, Elsinore, Van Buren, Redford and Koshkonnong. The net also heard from mobile stations near Leper, Piedmont, Van Buren and Ironton.

The reservoir breach reported occurred after a pump failed to shut down at utility Ameren UE's Taum Sauk hydroelectric

plant, which stores water from the Black River in an upper reservoir, releasing it to a lower reservoir to generate electricity. Hannigan said HF and VHF stations activated at emergency operations centers in Shannon and Carter counties.

"I was contacted by the Shannon County sheriffs dispatcher through the NPS[National Park Service] dispatch," Hannigan said. "The various net

controllers kept me updated as I was working but had a 2 meter [equipment] with me. No emergency traffic was passed but it was a good exercise, and I was really proud of the rapid wide-area VHF radio coverage."

In all, 16 stations responded to the emergency call up

--Missouri SM Don Moore, KM0R

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CRUMMY SOLAR WX MATCHES LOCAL WEATHER: BAD!

Solar flash Tad "The Sun Ain't Gonna Shine (Anymore)" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: Average daily sunspot numbers were down more than 18 points for the week (compared to the previous seven days), and average solar flux values were down nearly six points. Geomagnetic indices indicate quiet for the most part, although the days of the contest were unsettled.

Don't expect any big changes over the next week. Solar activity should stay about the same. RWC Prague expects geomagnetically quiet conditions December 18 and 19, quiet to unsettled conditions December 17, 20 and 21, and unsettled December 16 and 22.

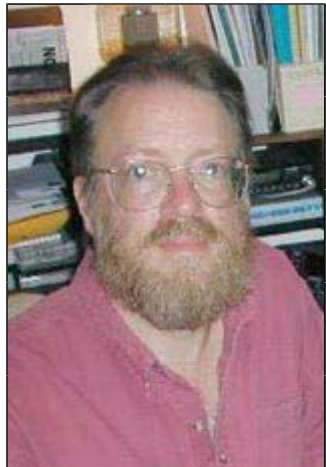
Sunspot numbers for December 8 through 14 were 51, 61, 55, 51, 41, 67 and 55, with a mean of 54.4. The 10.7 cm flux was 89.6, 89.1, 91.4, 93.1, 88.3, 87.9, and 89.6, with a mean of 89.9.

Estimated planetary A indices were 1, 4, 12, 22, 9, 5 and 2, with a mean of 7.9. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 1, 3, 17, 10, 7, 4 and 2, with a mean of 6.3.

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CONVERSATIONS FROM THE CONTESTORS RATE SHEET, BY WARD, NOAX



My Brain Hurts

The more the solar flux falls, the more severe the relative advantage or disadvantage incurred by contesters around the world. Whatever band or contest, you will either have feast or famine, depending on one's location and perspective. On the high bands, long-distance openings shrink and with them scores.

On the low-bands, population swells and with it QRM.

Geepers! What's a contestator to do?

I have discussed the idea of "Contests Within A Contest" before - make up your own set of parameters that satisfy the sponsor's rules and have a competition. For example, the North American Collegiate ARC Championship runs "piggybacked" onto the ARRL Sweepstakes. The WRTC-Style Team Challenge promotes two-operator teams within the IARU HF Championship's multi-operator rules.

Numerous clubs around the world have their own competitions, no doubt. If you're not on the Right Coast for Top Band, then make up your own regional competition!

What else can be done? Well, you could start your own contest - make up the necessary rules, find a spare weekend, publish the rules, put up a Web page, line up prize sponsors, advertise the contest, collect the logs, process all of the errors and problems, cross-check them, write up the results, publish...ah...maybe it's easier to crack another 807 and pound out another couple of emails on the reflectors. Besides, we already have literally hundreds of contests throughout the year.

What if we tried competitions based on multiple contests? Take a look at, say, the weekend of December 17th and 18th. There are a couple of 160-meter contests, a RTTY and a PSK31 contest, the RAC Winter Contest, the Croatian CW Contest, and the Lighthouse Christmas Lights event. Other weekends typically sport similar mixes - perhaps a state QSO party or two mixed with a DX and a digital contest. There are no shortages of

events! What if you entered more than one contest at a time?

This wouldn't work well in the presence of really Big Contests - they are too massive. But as we are fond of reminding non-contesters, there aren't that many Big Ones. Most weekends are relatively quiet, but you can find a relative handful of stations pursuing their national or state or club contests, sprinkled around the band. There is generally enough activity to keep entertained for a few tours up and down the bands.

Here's the "Contest Beyond A Contest" proposal. Actually, there are two and by the time I finish this paragraph, I may have thought of another one. Proposal one - multiply your score from all contests together. Can you make a million points? How about ten million points? The beauty of this is that each weekend is likely unique - a once in a lifetime strategic opportunity. Proposal two - create a "meta-score" by summing together all of the QSO points from all the contests then multiplying them by the sum of all the multipliers from all the contests. It will be the biggest score in your log all year!

Oh yes, a third proposal did occur - devise a scavenger hunt based on multipliers and modes from the available contests. Extra points for minimizing elapsed time!

Instead of SO2R, you could have SOMC - Single-Op Multiple-Contests. Or MOMC! The possibilities are literally endless. Imagine Multi-Multi-Multi-Contests! By the time the end of the weekend came around, you'd have been worn to a frazzle trying to remember all the exchanges and abbreviations. How would you call CQ? "Should I stay on Hellschrieber for another state or should I switch back to phone and look for Bean Blossom County or maybe 80 meters is open to Bechuanaland..." I mentioned the possibility of putting multiple contests in a single program to Tree N6TR. He thought for a minute and then said, "My brain hurts" and walked away. I can just see K3LR or KC1XX or W3LPL trying to come up with a winning strategy for all-bands and all-modes - and losing more sleep in the process.

Continued on page 17

JANUARY CONTESTS

SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1
AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Jan 1 (144) and 1900Z-2100Z, Jan 1 (432)
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 3
WQF QRP Party	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 6
Midwinter Contest, CW	1400Z-2000Z, Jan 7
Original QRP Contest	1500Z, Jan 7 to 1500Z, Jan 8
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 7 to 2400Z, Jan 8
EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z-2300Z, Jan 7 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 8
Midwinter Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jan 8
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 8
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2400Z, Jan 8
Hunting Lions in the Air Contest	0000Z, Jan 14 to 2400Z, Jan 15
070 Club PSK Fest	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 14
MI QRP January CW Contest	1200Z, Jan 14 to 2359Z, Jan 15
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 14 to 0600Z, Jan 15
NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0530Z-0730Z, Jan 15
NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0800Z-1000Z, Jan 15
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 16
NAQCC 80m Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 19
LZ Open Contest	0400Z-1200Z, Jan 21
Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 21 to 1200Z, Jan 22
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 21 to 0600Z, Jan 22
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z, Jan 21 to 0400Z, Jan 23
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	0000Z, Jan 28 to 2359Z, Jan 29
REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 28 to 1800Z, Jan 29
SARL Youth Day	0700Z-1100Z, Jan 28
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 28 to 1200Z, Jan 29
UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 28 to 1300Z, Jan 29



Mini-Swap Meet at the Clubhouse

Last Saturday of each month Mini Swap Meet at the Clubhouse ... 10 a.m. to 2 p.m....There will be food (hot dogs, etc.) ...Bring in your items you want to swap or sell or stop by to see what others bring.



RCT CHRISTMAS BASH EVENT— SET RECORDS FOR ATTENDANCE



Rich, N7ANF and Doug AD7AV set up the audience for proper reverence.

If you missed it, you REALLY missed it!

The annual RCT Christmas party was a great success, due mostly to the undying efforts of Rich N7ANF and his devoted staff.

Rich was ably assisted by Rick KE7EMW, who was decked out for the affair in an Italian flavored apron for some reason, and complete with a spiffy bow tie. Way to go Rick!

On the menu were a couple of turkeys, with all the fixings, along with a ham and mashed potatoes... Of course the ladies of the club brought along a great selection of potluck items. No one left hungry from this party!

Many awards were handed out by President Mick Pier KK7QS., and new and current officers were introduced.

The coveted "Doc Spike" award went to a totally surprised Rich Patrick KR7W. Rich has devoted many hours to the club and is very much appreciated by W7DK and the membership gave Rich a sparkling round of applause and a standing ovation!

Thanks to out to all those who helped set up this event, and another thanks goes to those who attended.

More photographs of the event on the nest page. These photographs were contributed by our secretary Larry Watson KD4VOM.

73 all! Gary WG7X



Above, we see Rick Rose KE7EMW in his splendid apron and bow tie, being ably assisted by an unidentified short person! Looking good Rick!



Looking down the food line, we see Michael KB7ZDR getting in an assist and possibly an early taste! In the background is Dennis KB7WV. Unfortunately, I have no identification on the nicely dressed ladies in the picture!



Chuck AC7QN and Rich N7ANF working the trash detail. No idea if they were putting IN or taking OUT!



A nice view of the party. Check out the FB rouges gallery at the front table!

Would you like to try alternate scoring rules for existing contests? It can be done by post-processing. That is, write some software (or use Cabrillo analysis tools) to re-score logs from existing contests.

Don't like the QSO point mix of CQ WW? Come up with something else and have competitors send you their logs - after they send them to the CQ WW Committee, of course! Would you like to score individual QSOs by distance?

The calculations are straightforward - just get everyone to send you their grid square along with the log (or just look up their grid square) and have at it! How about power? Or antenna ERP?

Furthermore (and I can see you looking around for the chloroform, so I'll be brief) there is no particular reason why all of the contests have to be running at the same weekend. Cumulative competitions are a little-explored area of contesting. Sum QSOs and multipliers from all of the Top Band or 10-Meter or digital contests throughout the season and calculate that score.

We have such a vigorous community of competitors, skilled in

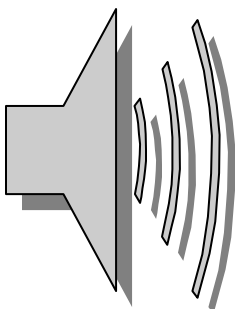
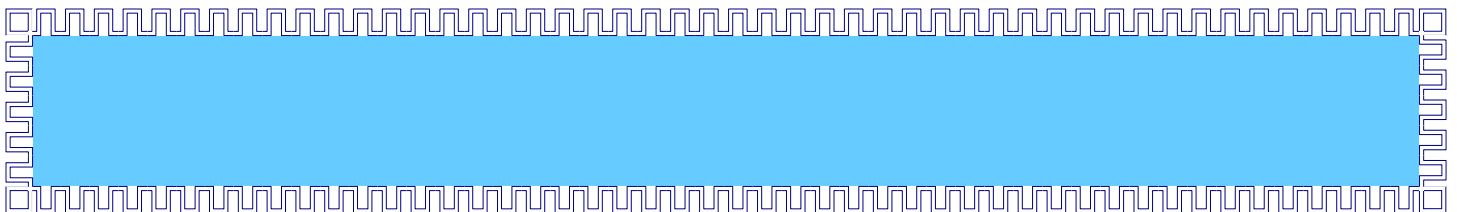
so many arts. We also have an embarrassing richness of competitive opportunities. Let's take the first and apply it to the second to come up with challenges no one has seen before! Does that make your brain hurt, too? It sounds like a great club project to me.

On a separate topic, it is an honor to have been appointed Chair of the ARRL's Contest Advisory Committee. That doesn't mean, though, that every musing and marginal witticism that you find in the Conversation section of the Rate Sheet is necessarily Official CAC Policy. Unless I specifically say otherwise, you can assume that these rambles are merely the product of the same over-caFFEinated imagination as usual - it's just me. A scary thought, isn't it? See you in the pileups!

73, Ward N0AX

Contester's Rate Sheet

14 December 2005



*Check in to the Tuesday evening Net at 7:30p.m. on 147.28
(the W7DK repeater) for the latest news
and announcements from the club!*

*10 meter Net Sunday evening 8 p.m. On 28.375
CW net meets on Sunday evening 7 p.m. on 28.150
2-Meter SSB Net every Tuesday after FM net, 144.275*

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA BOARD DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

December 7th, 2005

The December 7th, 2005 board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. Officers and board members present were as follows:

Officers and Board members:

President:	Mick Pier-KK7QS,
Vice President:	Jill Palmer -K7JIL,
Secretary:	Larry Watson-KD4VOM,
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter-KD7TRC,
Board Member:	Frank Palmer-AC7JY,
Board Member	William Jonez-AB7WJ
Board Member	Gary McAdams-W7GX
Board Member	Lynn Neece-K7OKS
Board Member	Rodney Saucedo-WV7O
Board Member Elect	Peter Baker - AD7EU
Board Member Elect	Larry Alvar - KD7TQW

Attendance roster – Circulated and attached to the minutes.

Quorum: Present (Transaction of Board business requires five members)

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Correspondence: A thank you card from LaVone Holz-

born on behalf of her husband Ralph W7MVJ who became a Silent Key in November of 2004. LaVone has a 1940's Ham Radio Ralph wanted to donate to the Radio Club of Tacoma Museum. A membership renewal for Don Severeid, Thank you note from Fran Collins on behalf of Silent Key Bob Lyons; K7GTE who passed on September 10th. There were several Washington Mutual Financial statements and a US Bank CD maturing notice; a Wide-band service bill and a telephone bill.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Pat,-KD7TRC, distributed copies of the current report of receipts and disbursements, a copy is attached.

There was a discussion on renewing the Scholarship CD which addressed whether we should change banks to seek better rates of return.

Larry Watson -KD4VOM moved that we authorize the Treasurer to research available CD options and rates and pick the best one for the Club. This Motion was approved by the board:

Larry Alvar suggested we might want to consider splitting the CD into two parts having them mature at six month intervals to enable us to take better advantage of future rate changes.

Pat also advised the Board that the Equipment and Liability Insurance premiums were due at the end of the year and a discussion ensued on whether our coverage was adequate for the equipment policy. Pat has asked the ARRL/Insurance Company for their listing of our insured equipment. . Larry Alvar - KD7TQW Asked why we had three policies and perhaps we should shop around. Al Burleson- K7HW pointed out that these policies are part of the ARRL services and we couldn't expect to get better rates from another commercial firm. Since the deadline is short,

Larry - KD4VOM moved, and the Board elected to renew the coverage at current rates, then resolve the equipment value issue and make adjustments in the coverage if necessary. The Board approved this motion.

The Property (Clubhouse) insurance policy has not yet arrived. Frank -AC7JY suggested our property insurance

may not be large enough to cover replacement costs, and we should explore our options here too

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Steve Blacksteen: We have sold another **Screwdriver antenna** and Steve provided the \$25.00 Club portion of the sale to the Treasurer. Pat Winterger reported that Screwdriver antennas sold were 3 in August, 1 in September, 1 in October and 1 in November this year.

Jill -- K7JIL: Reported on the progress of **Jerry Seligman's Scrapbook** and thanked those who provided input. The Scrapbook was passed around for all to see. It's a classy job.

There was also some discussion on how to handle donations on Jerry's behalf. Several ideas were suggested including establishing some sort of educational support fund, a book fund for new hams, etc. This item was left open.

Sunshine: Jill -- K7JIL: Reported on Silent Key Edwin Hunziker -- K7SAA. Jill is overwhelmed with her current duties and is seeking someone to pick up the "Sunshine" activities. Larry Alvar offered to help with the membership and dues processing. Jill suggested that they consider coming in on the off Wednesdays (When there are no board or general membership meetings) to process the membership renewal applications and dues.

Adam -- KD7TQX reported on an e-mail he had received from a friend concerning access to the **Crawford Mountain Club repeater**. His friend has access to keys for the facility and is willing to help.

Pat -- KD7TRC reported that we had already received the renewal notice for the Crawford Mountain repeater from the Bureau of Land Management, which is due by 19 December - The renewal paperwork was given to Nick Winter K7MO to take care of.

Mick Pier -- KK7QS discussed the December second monthly regular membership meeting and we concluded that it will go on as scheduled -- Pat KD7TRC reported that Nick -- K7MO had already begun work on the program for that meeting.

Jill -- K7JIL suggested a pajama New Year's Eve party, but

there is already an annual Straight Key New Years party/potluck planned at the Club.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Team:

Larry -- KD4VOM provided a brief update on the Planning Team efforts. A draft RCT Mission Statement has been developed and efforts are underway to develop operating guides for the majority of the club committees/programs and/or teams to ease the transition for new members taking on these tasks. They will also work on a rough annual plan to be used to help the Treasurer prepare the annual Club budget.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Annual Doc Spike Award -- Frank Palmer:

Frank reported that the recipient of the Annual Doc Spike award had been selected and to come to the Saturday night Awards Banquet to find out who was honored.

Clubhouse Ramp Work Frank AC7JY and Lynn K7OKS -- Status: Completed

Handicapped Ramp Project: Frank -- AC7JY reported that, with a hand from Adam KD7TQX, and Mike -- KB7ZDR the handicapped ramp had been repaired, and that Mike was continuing to pursue the possibility of a permanent concrete ramp.

Thomas Murphy's Auto Donation Project Status: Mick -- KK7QS reported that there were no bids or offers made on the vehicle, and that the next step would be to put the vehicle on consignment. Al -- mentioned that he knew someone who might be interested, and would contact him. Mick -- KK7QS agreed to hold until this option is explored.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Plan and Budget development: Larry Watson KD4VOM

Although the Planning Team has not completed its work, we've been overcome by events. The annual budget required of the Treasurer (no date specified) should rest on an annual plan. I recommend the Planning Team meet with Pat to rough out the best annual and three year

plan we can develop on short notice, and use it as a basis for the annual budget preparation.

Club Membership Options: Steve Blacksten -- KD7UBE Noted that his efforts to publicize the Screwdriver effort involved getting the names of area Ham Clubs from the ARRL and sending info to them in case they had members interested in the antennas. He suggested that some of the clubs in the area had folded and that we might want to contact those clubs/members and ask them to join us. He will provide the info to the Secretary. Steve also suggested we might want to send Club information/calendar/classes and testing schedules to the World Radio for publication. The Secretary will pursue this idea...

Awards and Recognition: Frank -- AC7JY raised the question on our awards and recognition program. We need a broader way to recognize those who give of their time and talents than just the Doc Spike Award and the Standing Rules are dated. The ensuing discussion pointed out that we had already named several rooms in the Clubhouse for major club supporters (The Jerry Seligman radio room, and the Bill Shimin Classroom etc.). There was a consensus as well that we should recognize club members contributions while they are living. Al -- K7HW pointed out that we are running out of clubhouse rooms to name, and we should be looking for another way to honor those whose efforts prompt greater recognition. He suggested a kind of trophy for "Power Houses" which contains power supply components encased in Plexiglas/Lucite as an alternative. Larry Watson -- KD4VOM and Larry Alvar -- KD7TQW volunteered to take on the Club Awards and Recognition program and develop a broader approach to recognizing all those who make significant contributions in service to the club.

Standing Rules and Parliamentarian: Al -- K7HW pointed out that the Club Bylaws requires the Parliamentarian to annually review the minutes and recommend Standing Rules updates based on actions taken over the year by the Board and Membership.

90th Anniversary Activities: Peter Baker AD7EU suggested we consider honoring our elder statesmen by

inviting them to an "Old Timers" night -- which has been done in the past. This discussion broadened into a larger discussion on the upcoming 90th Anniversary of the Radio Club of Tacoma, 16 October 2006.

It was generally agreed we should begin planning now for the 90th Anniversary and several suggestions related to the activities of the 85th anniversary surfaced.

We need to appoint/solicit a team to begin planning...

Perhaps we can combine the "Old Timers" night and the Club's 90th Anniversary together.

Clubhouse Safety: Pat -- KD7TRC advised the board that recently it was discovered that the Clubhouse first aid kit had many very obsolete/expired components. Rick Rose has volunteered to act as facility safety officer and will look at such things as updating and maintaining the first aid kit, smoke alarms, and fire extinguisher maintenance.

Orientation Program for new officers: Larry Watson KD4VOM

I propose to develop an orientation program for newly elected officers. I'll try to come up with a presentation which could be presented at a future Board meeting. It's purpose would be to insure that new officers and board members are acquainted with the Clubs Principal Source Documents (Articles of Incorporation, and amendments thereto, the Bylaws and Standing Rules and their requirements incumbent on the Board, as well as our annual planning calendar, a list of committee and program managers, activities and events which the Board is responsible to manage. We should also insure that new officers and board members have a package containing the key documents they will need for their duties; Articles of Incorporation and amendments; Bylaws, Standing Rules, Committee and Program manager list, Club membership roster with amendments, the Annual Planning and Budget Documents and a current financial statement. We should also make them aware of our Federal, State, County, ARRL and other financial, legal and affiliation requirements. There may be more... but this is a start.)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

**RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES**

14 December, 2005

The 14 December Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President:	Mick Pier-KK7QS,
Vice President:	Jill Palmer -K7JIL,
Secretary:	Larry Watson-KD4VOM,
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter-KD7TRC,
Board Member:	Frank Palmer-AC7JY,
Board Member	William Jonez-AB7WJ
Board Member	Roddney Saucedo-WV7O

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by President Mick Pier

INTRODUCTIONS:

Visitors Ron Renwick, KE7EWH, Larry Richardson – KB7LBD, and Elizabeth Montefusco, New Members Linda -- KE7FKX and Harry – KE7FLM provided self introductions.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

Jerry Seligman: Continues to be hospitalized. Jill – K7JIL has taken the Scrapbook to him and he enjoyed it very much. There was a discussion of the disposition of the fund collected for Jerry. The Board had recently discussed how to use the contributions, and had considered providing a portion of the funds to Jerry's family to offset their frequent travel to the hospital, and then to consider

using the remaining funds to establish some sort of Club educational support fund, perhaps to purchase books for use in the training program and for new hams with limited resources. It appears someone thought a portion of the funds was missing, and reported that to Jerry's Son. As a result of this the President has elected to proceed with providing the entire amount to Jerry's family.

Nick Winter – K7MO reported Silent Key Milt Perkins, W7FVB who may have been a member in the past.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

LaVone Holzborn sent a thank you card on behalf of her husband Ralph W7MVJ who became a silent key in November or 2004. She has a 1940's era radio that Ralph wanted to donate to the Club.

Several membership renewals which were passed to Jill – K7JIL

Received a note from Fran Collins on behalf of Silent Key Bob Lyons who passed on September 10th.

Received several Washington Mutual and US Bank Financial statements which were passed to the Treasurer.

Telephone and wideband service bills

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC

Pat has copies of the monthly financial report available for members review.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Christmas Dinner Report: (Rich N7ANF) Rich reported on an outstanding Awards Banquet, thanked Rich Rose for a great effort and support, and noted that this was the largest turnout in his memory with well over 80 folks enjoying both the "Awful Nice Food", and the Radio Club of Tacoma Annual Awards Presentations.

Rich Patrick – K7RW reminded us of the upcoming New Years Eve Straight Key night. Activities will begin around 4 pm and run 'til around 9. As many of the old historic radio rigs will be fired up, including the "Old Oak Rig"; the "Globe" and perhaps others. Potluck food and perhaps a Pizza, and you don't have to pound a straight key to enjoy the evening...

Stolen Radio Tale: Al Williams – K7PUC reported that a

TS-50 radio which had been stolen 9 years ago has been recovered. He was contacted by a King County Sheriff who was also a ham, who had discovered it in the recovered property locker and took it upon himself to find Al. Al pointed out that it might have been recovered a lot earlier if the equipment had been clearly marked with his Call and/or some other traceable info.

PROGRAM: Nick Winter K7MO:

Nick presented several video clips; the first was Channels 13 and 11 television coverage of his father, Joe Winter Senior – WZ7M being interviewed about Amateur Radio from his Ham Shack, and a second while making a Space Shuttle Contact. The final presentation was video taken at the Radio Club of Tacoma's 70th Anniversary which includes a description of the first and second Clubhouses.

Rich Patrick – K7RW announced that the next program will be a review of the 2005 Field Day operations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Repeater Maintenance: Nick Winter K7MO reported that his usual annual repeater maintenance and upgrade will happen between Christmas and New Years – Be aware that the repeater may be down periodically during that time, and when it returns Nick plans to put the CW ID at 20 wpm, and reduce the courtesy tone to a single tone.

Al Burleson has advised Mick Pier by e-mail that he is expecting to get the keys to the Crawford Mountain Club repeater.

VE Team Report: John Clarke – AC7WW reported that unlike the last VE session, the VE's outnumbered the candidates three to one at last night's test session. Four candidates received four elements. Paul – KE7CET passed element one on the last day before his CSCE for element 3 Expired (14 December 2004) and Paul advanced to General. Leon, KE7FCX brought a relative of his girl friend to the testing session and passed element two to become a new Technician Class. An 11 year old young man from Seattle passed element two on the second attempt to become a new Technician Class Amateur.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

90th Anniversary: The Radio Club of Tacoma celebrates its 90th Anniversary in 2006 – Time to start planning for the big event...16 October 1916 was the date we were established.

Clubhouse Safety: Rick Rose has volunteered to head up the Clubhouse safety team. Our First Aid Kit was woefully out of date, and we suspect the fire extinguishers and smoke alarms need inspection and maintenance...

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Field Day: Gary McFadden – K7UPG asked whether we should consider looking for a better/salt water location to improve our performance during Field Day. Nick Winter – K7MO described the K7LED operations from his memory. The discussion ended without any clear direction.

Standing Wave Demonstration: Worth – W7WG and Jon – AD7AW presented a riveting demonstration of standing wave characteristics using a piece of rope about 30 feet long. This highly technical and well orchestrated presentation was enjoyed by all.

Door Prize: Mick – KK7QS asked the members present whether they thought we should continue our regular membership door prize activities. The members responded favorably to this idea.

Loggers Certificates: Steve KD7UBE asked about Loggers Certificates. Nick Winter – K7MO responded that a recent computer crash had destroyed his data which must be reconstructed manually, but that is underway and he will get back to issuing the updates.

Door Prize: Tonight there was no door prize.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm

**RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES
23 November, 2005**

DRAFT

The 23 November Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present were: Present

President:	Mick Pier-KK7QS,	X
Vice President:	Jill Palmer -K7JIL,	X
Secretary:	Larry Watson-KD4VOM,	X
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter-KD7TRC,	
Board Member:	Frank Palmer-AC7JY,	X
Board Member	William Jonez-AB7WJ	
Board Member	Gary McAdams-W7GX	X
Board Member	Lynn Neece-K7OKS	
Board Member	Roddney Saucedo-WV7O	

A sign in sheet with the names of 40 members and 5 guests is attached.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by the President, Mick Pier

INTRODUCTIONS:

Guests Harry and Linda Adams, Ron Renwick – KE7EWH, Kelly Benel, Nicholas Ehli and Lois Hoppe were welcomed to the meeting,. Followed by membership self introductions.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

Jerry Seligman had surgery today following a cardiac event. Jerry's Son David sent a message that his father was going through a tough time and could use all the support we can muster from the club to which he has devoted most of his adult life. His phone number has changed – 968-2328. It is probably better to call in the afternoons. Jill has cards and is accepting donations for flowers.

Gary McFadden is sporting a new boot on his foot, as a result of some recent foot surgery, but he still made the meeting.

It was reported that Ed Hunziker- K7SAA was feeling bad and Jim Swanson - KD7TJE went to help out.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

None

TREASURER'S REPORT:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:**Christmas Dinner:** (Rich N7ANF)

Rich reminded everyone of the upcoming Christmas Awards Dinner at the TACID building on 19th and Mildred – Opens around 5:30 and serving begins at 6 pm. He's still looking for someone to cook the two hams Roger Holme has donated. He has also gained some needed and welcome help from Rick Rose KE7EMW.

Share a Ride: Rick – KE7EMW also asked that we make sure anyone who needs a ride to the dinner has one. Please check if you know someone who needs a ride and contact them.

Pierce County Emergency Services: Roger Home solicited members to check out the Pierce County Emergency Services if they are interested. Their Net is on 145.370 every Tuesday at 7 pm PL Tone 136.6 – offset. Point of Contact is Mark Yordy, W7BBO They will be conducting a one time simplex evaluation using the Grass Mountain

repeater W7AAO On November 29th @ 146.580.

MEMBERSHIP: Jill Palmer -K7JIL announced the new membership applications which has been streamlined and doesn't require entries for items which have not changed. It also includes a reference to the benefit accruing to the Club if ARRL memberships are processed through the Club (\$15 for new ARRL members, and \$2 for ARRL members renewing through the club)

Club Publicity: Steve Blacksten reported that there is an article in World Radio outlining our Club's development and production of the Screwdriver antennas. There is also a contest to win a commercial Screwdriver antenna. Steve has address labels and all you have to do to enter is send a QSO card to the address. The contest runs 45 days.

PROGRAM: Home Brew night, Nick Winter K7MO

Our program was an eclectic display of "home brew" items by members.

Bob -KE7DGO displayed an ultimate portable antenna from a recent QST, a Norcal QRP antenna tuner, power supply and a long wire retractable antenna.

Steve Blacksten - KD7UBE displayed one of the Club produced Screwdriver antennas. The program was started by Hal - W7EC and evolved to a production effort by Steve and Al Churchill- AC7BQ. It is a center loaded dipole with remote control; battery operated tuning and comes with a ground radial system. With a 102 inch whip it can tune from 80 to 10 Meters.

Nick Winter K7MO - Displayed and described his home brew HF transmitter built when he was a teen-ager from a 1967 QST plan. It is a crystal controlled rig which used soup cans for shielding. He also displayed his homebrew tuner which uses interchangeable coils.

Anna Winter K7ANA - proudly displayed her first soldering exercise, a small Christmas tree with bright led colored lights.

Chuck Kemmer - AC7QN Explained his "Rabbit Cage"

transmitter, which is a re-creation of one he built long ago, using a 1957 QST plan. It uses a 6146 tube, is crystal controlled and runs a plate voltage around 500 volts. The current model is constructed mostly from the junk box, donations and things picked up from hamfests and Boeing surplus. He also displayed a code practice oscillator, and dumb load.

Rich Patrick - K7RW - Displayed a strange piece of homebrew which was designed to permit the operation of three radios during sweepstakes contesting. It incorporates visual basic code developed by Al Williams - K7PUC. The program was intended to control the parallel outputs to three radios. LED lights indicated which radio was transmitting and receiving...

Jon Hamilton- AD7AW - displayed an unusual version of the classic "J" pole antenna. It is made of larger diameter copper tubing which provides broader bandwidth, and is designed for both 440 and 2 meter operation. The feed point is adjustable for tuning and matching the 50 Ohm impedance requirement. The 440 section with what looks like "mini" J pole affair is tuned first. He also displayed an adapter which allowed it to fit on the top of a 25 foot flag pole. Works like a charm sez Jon.

Chandler Ellis- KC7EYZ wowed us with his Fast Scan Low Light TV which operates on 434 MHz using a 1 watt transmitter. Send sharp video and audio, even when he took it outside, which also demonstrated the low light capabilities.

Worth - W7WG - Built a multi-band dipole retractable antenna to replace an earlier inverted "V". It's lightweight, portable and works fine. Although Worth thought it to be an original concept, he notes that a version of the same concept is in a recent QST article. All made mostly from the junk box.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None reported **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None reported **NEW BUSINESS:** None reported **Door Prizes won by:** Steve Blacksten, Chuck Kemmer - AC7QN and Dennis - KB7WFFV

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm

Steve Morton/AD7AB organizes and teaches our club sponsored tech class. He has helped a lot of citizens become ham operators. He also finds time to keep the clubs computers in working order and maintains our IRLP node.

Nick Winter/K7MO is the clubs station engineer. He also led our 2005 field day committee. He works on the repeater committee, and has just recently assumed the duties of program chairman. Nick spends a lot of personal time assuring that the club runs smoothly.

Rich Patrick/KR7W is the creator and editor of the all new W7DK web site. He was field day co-chair. He sponsors code classes, making it possible for hams to upgrade their operating privileges. He has put together presentations for the meetings and likes to experiment with new ways to transmit. Rich is also the recipient of the 2005 "**Doc Spike Inspirational Award**". Congratulations Rich, and thanks for all you do. We truly appreciate your work.

Pat Wingerter/KC7TRC put together the wonderful booth we worked at the Western Washington State Fair. She helps with a lot of the clubs functions as well as serving as the clubs treasurer, (Which in itself is enough work to keep two people busy). Thanks for your time and dedication.

Michael Compton/KB7ZDR is the clubs equipment manager and brings in almost as much money as the ham fest. Mike also works to help keep our repeaters in working order and spends many Saturdays at the clubhouse helping hams solve their radio problems.

Roddney Saucedo/WV7O is very active with club projects and activities. Anytime there is a club project or activity he is there to help out or even take charge. He also serves on the board of directors. His talents and skills are very valuable to the club. Thanks Roddney for all your hard work.

John Clarke/AC7WW is the radio clubs VE liaison. He makes sure we have testing sessions on the second Tuesday of every month and makes sure that all ARRL regulations are followed. He also handles the clubs bulk mailings.

Bud Mitze/K7BUD. Bud has been organizing the clubs annual Jim Kirkreit memorial function, also known as W7DK at the beach, for the past several years. Buds warm friendly personality is a valued asset to the club.

Doug Oakman/AD7AV is the clubs librarian. He has spent many hours sorting through and cataloging the clubs literature so that it will be usable to the members. He has restored order to an otherwise chaotic pile of magazines and books. Thanks Doug for all your time and hard work.

Dawn Pier/KC7VZM has edited the BARK for the past few years. She helps with most of the clubs functions and parties. Dawns support is very valuable to the operation of our club.

Gary McAdams/WG7X is our QSL manager. He makes sure all of our QSL card exchanges are handled. He also plays an active role in many of our club functions. Gary has recently taken over

the duties of editing the BARK, and also serves on the board of directors.

Lynn Neece/K7OKS is the clubs HF station manager. Lynn also runs the clubs 10 meter net each Sunday. He has installed antennas at the clubhouse, and also serves on the board of directors.

Chuck Kemmer/AC7QN. Chuck maintains the clubs two generators. He makes sure they are ready for use in the case of an emergency and for field day. He participates in many club activities and likes to experiment with alternative power sources. Chuck put together a stationary bike that can be pedaled to generate enough power to transmit a ham radio. This was used for field day and it worked. Good job Chuck.

Dick Ryan/W7RGD is being recognized for the many years he has dedicated to the club in maintaining our silent key plaque. Dick has made sure that all the clubs past on members have recognized and honored. Thanks Dick we really appreciate your time and effort.

Steve Blacksten/KD7UBE is always involved with club projects. Steve led the installation of our flag pole and its lights. He also inspires many members to participate in club activities. He is always presenting interesting projects and activities to help keep members active.

Peter Baker/AD7EU is one of the clubs new members that has been involved with many of the clubs activities. Peter is always right there to volunteer to help with food and any other project that needs help. He has set a good example for new members, and many have followed.

I would just like to say that many of these recognized members could not have succeeded without the help of many others. Thank you, to all those who helped. We could not have done it without you.

This year's winner of the \$300.00 gift certificate to the Ham Radio Outlet was Roger Home/KE7EMV. Thank you all for a good year. "73" de kk7qs.

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

☐ **Renewal** _____ → Name _____ Call _____
(Membership has not lapsed) * See member price below

☐ **Reinstatement** _____ → Name _____ Call _____
(Membership has lapsed for more than 1 year) * See member price below

☐ I would also like to add additional family member/s @ \$15 ea. (more than 2 are free)

Names, Calls & License Class if applicable _____

☐ No changes in any of my information this year. ☐ Yes, I have changes in my address, phone #'s or email. (Please make changes below)

Address _____ City/State _____

Zip + 4 _____ Home Phone (____) _____ Wk/Cell (____) _____

Email _____ Please do not publish my ☐ phone #'s or ☐ email in the roster!

NEW MEMBERS ONLY One Application per Member Please

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ Birthday _____

Address _____ City/State _____

Zip+4 _____ Home Phone (____) _____ Work/Cell phone (____) _____

Email _____ Are you a member of ARRL? ___ Yes ___ No

RCT receives \$15 for each new member who joins ARRL through the club. \$2 for each renewal. ARRL form is in new member packet.

Occupation, hobbies, interests or skills _____

___ I would like to purchase a Club Badge for \$9.00 each. Please print how you would like your badge to read.

Badge Name _____ Badge Call sign _____

Applicant's Signature _____

Annual Membership Dues	<u>PLEASE CHECK ALL MEMBER CATEGORIES THAT APPLY</u>	___ FULL
Full or Associate Renewals and Reinstatements:	\$30	___ ASSOCIATE
Family members at same address: (first 2)	\$15	___ SENIOR
Senior Member (65 or older)	\$25	___ FAMILY
Full Time Student (up to age 25)	\$15	___ STUDENT
Life Membership (20 x the Annual dues) payment plan available		___ LIFETIME

FOR RCT USE ONLY

Dues received \$ _____ Badge fee received \$ _____ Date _____ Receipt # _____

New Member Packet: Date _____ Certificate: Date: _____ Membership Chairman Initials: _____

Mail to: Jill Palmer K7Jil 3817 169th St Ct E Tacoma, WA 98446-2928